

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 2327

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, PO, CZ

SUBJ: STATEMENTS BY SECRETARY OF STATE FOR LABOR

CARLOS CARVALHAS

REF: PRAGUE 880

1. SECRETARY OF STATE FOR LABOR CARLOS CARVALHAS, FIRST RANKING OFFICIAL IN MINISTRY OF LABOR AFTER MINISTER COSTA MARTINS, RETURNED TO LISBON APRIL 21 AFTER REPRESENTING THE PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT AT WORLD PEACE COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN EAST BERLIN. CARVALHAS' FOUR DAY TRIP INCLUDED A VISIT TO PRAGUE.

2. DR. CARLOS CARVALHAS, AGE 33, JOINED LABOR MINISTRY IN JUNE 1974. HOLDS ECONOMICS DEGREE WITH SPECIALIZATION IN LABOR ECONOMICS. ALTHOUGH HE PROFESSES TO HAVE NO POLITICAL PARTY AFFILIATION, THERE IS LITTLE DOUBT THAT HE IS AN ACTIVE SUPPORTER OF THE PORTUGUESE COMMUNIST PARTY (PCP). HE IS A FORMER DIRECTOR OF COMMUNIST WEEKLY, NOTICIAS DA AMADORA; MEMBER OF PORTUGUESE COMMISSION FOR EUROPEAN SECURITY AND COOPERATION; ON SECRETARIAT OF PORTUGUESE COUNCIL FOR PEACE AND COOPERATION; CDE OPPOSITION CANDIDATE IN 1969 AND 1973 LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS. HIS KNOWN POLITICAL MACHINATIONS WITHIN MINISTRY OF LABOR HAVE INVARIABLY BEEN CONSISTENT WITH, AND DESIGNED TO FURTHER, PCP POLICIES.

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3. UPON HIS RETURN TO PORTUGAL CARVALHAS ANNOUNCED WORLD PEACE

COUNCIL WOULD SPONSOR "SUPPORT FOR PORTUGAL" WEEK IN 140 COUNTRIES, MAY 23-JUNE 1. CAMPAIGN IS TO PREVENT PORTUGAL FROM BECOMING EUROPE'S CHILE. CARVALHAS DENOUNCED AN "INTERNATIONAL PLOT" AGAINST THE PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT AS EVIDENCED BY FALSE REPORTS PUBLISHED BY INTERNATIONAL NEWS AGENCIES. HE ALLEGED THAT EVENTS OF SEPTEMBER 28 AND MARCH 11 WERE UNDERTAKEN BY "INTERNAL REACTIONARY FORCES IN LEAGUE WITH INTERNATIONAL CAPITAL SEEKING TO PROTECT ITS INTERESTS AND PRIVILEGES."

4. WITH REFERENCE TO REFTEL STATEMENTS ATTRIBUTED TO CARVALHAS, EMBASSY COMMENTING IN SEPTTEL.
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